

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A protection method for preventing battery cells from over-discharging and being overcharged, a control circuit, and a battery unit are provided.

- 5 In the protection method, when a set signal "1" is supplied to a set terminal, a flip-flop outputs "1". The gate of a discharge control FET then becomes "1", so that the discharge control FET is OFF regardless of a discharge control signal supplied from a
- 10 voltage monitor circuit. When a reset signal "1" is supplied to a reset terminal, the flip-flop outputs "0". The discharge control FET is then switched on and off in accordance with the output of a discharge control circuit of the voltage monitor circuit. In
- 15 this manner, battery cells connected to an electronic device do not over-discharge, even when they are left unused for a long period of time. Thus, the battery unit can be prevented from deteriorating and shortening the life thereof.

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